

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

HAER
AK,
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Sealing Plant
St. George (Island)
Pribilof Islands
Alaska *← Aleutian Islands*

HAER No. AK-25

NOTE: Photographs were taken by Jet Lowe, photographer, 1989

- AK-25-1 VIEW SHOWING SEALING PLANT (1951) [U-shaped building in center], PLUMBING AND ELECTRICAL SHOP (1951) [at left] AND MACHINE SHOP (1948) [to the right]
- AK-25-2 VIEW OF WASH TANKS [Skins are brought in through hatches, seen on rear wall, and washed of blood and flesh in redwood tanks, with wooden grates to hold skins down in water. Superstructure and screening on tanks are a later alteration, unrelated to this process.]
- AK-25-3 VIEW OF KENCH TANK [Used to preserve skins before processing, the skins were placed in tanks in layers, alternating with salt. Some skins and salt remain.]
- AK-25-4 VIEW OF BLUBBERING ROOM [Each skin was put on a metal mold and stripped of its blubber with a curved knife. The blubber ran off to the left to barrels outside, where it was saved for use in preserving the texture of the skins.]
- AK-25-5 VIEW OF BLUBBERING ROOM [Cart, on the floor, was used for moving skins around plant by way of an overhead track.]
- AK-25-6 VIEW OF BRINING TANK [Older, redwood model. Paddles agitated the skins while they soaked in brine. The skins were then hung to dry.]
- AK-25-7 VIEW OF BRINING TANK [Newer, concrete model. After drying, skins were rolled in borax and packed into barrels, such as those seen in background.]